

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

*A*  
Page 1, line 1, insert ~~/~~-This application is a Continuation-in-Part of PCT/IB00/00168, filed February 4, 2000, designating the U.S., published August 10, 2000 as WO 00/45647 and claiming priority from GB 9902520.7 filed February 4, 1999. All of the above-mentioned applications, as well as all documents cited herein and documents referenced or cited in documents cited herein, are hereby incorporated herein by reference.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

- Sub B1* *2*  
1. A process for the preparation of a modified masa foodstuff, the process comprising the steps of  
*(i) preparing a masa by nixtamalisation of corn*  
*(ii) contacting a reducing agent or an enzyme with*  
*(a) the masa and/or*  
*(b) the corn prior to nixtamalisation;*  
such that a protein native to the corn is modified.
- Sub B1* *2*  
2. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the masa foodstuff is selected from corn tortilla, soft tortilla, corn chips, tortilla chips, taco shells, tamales, derivatives and mixtures thereof.